REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed October 4, 2003, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome certain informalities. The Examiner acknowledged the application's condition for allowance, noted certain formal matters, and closed further prosecution of the application on the merits under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 U.S.P.Q. 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

In the Amendment filed December 4, 2003, Applicant addressed and resolved the formal matters indicated by the Examiner in the October 4, 2003 Office Action. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 6 to improve form and readability and adds claims 12-23. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-23 are pending. Applicant submits that new claims 12-23 are allowable and therefore requests the timely allowance of the new claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 29, 2003

Frank A. Italiano Reg. No. 53,056

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